

12.01.1934

Sir

Will you allow me to call the attention of your readers to one or two adaptations in the organisation known as the "Parents' Union School" which may make its scheme of work more available ~~for~~ than hitherto for Schools belonging to the Private Schools Association?"

The work is now definitely set for six forms, instead of for four classes; the ages covered (six to eighteen) remain the same, but for the convenience of our schools the usual grouping has been adopted. This change has been affected with some difficulty because the reading of considerable books is an essential feature of our school work with which no change in classification may be allowed to interfere.

The number of good books required by each pupil in each class is found to be an obstacle in many cases because the Heads of schools often prefer to provide the books used. A suggestion issuing from the Board of Education may be of use in Private as well as in Elementary Schools; that is, that for a class of forty children it would be desirable to get four sets of ten books instead of one set of forty; so that by a little adaptation of the time-table, the whole class would cover the ground in private study with, say, a quarter of the number of each of the set books.



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of ~~the~~ books, because <sup>the kinds of books</sup> teachers often prefer  
to provide the books used. ~~the~~ A suggestion issuing from  
the Board of Education may lead us  
in private as well as in elementary  
schools, that is, not for a class of  
40 children. It would be <sup>desirably</sup> ~~preferable~~  
to put 4 sets of ten books instead of  
one set of 40 <sup>or more</sup> by a little adaptation of  
the time-table, the whole class would cover  
the ground in private study with a quarter  
of the number of books of each of the  
sets books.  
Many heads of schools know how exceptional  
with children, who have been brought  
up on a method which is largely one  
of self-study. ~~How~~ <sup>How</sup> must have heard  
parents regret to change them, for reasons  
of compromise, convenience, they  
send their children <sup>to school</sup> with the usual  
curriculum & methods. For this reason  
it would be a satisfaction to all concerned

with this organization of many <sup>cellular</sup> <sup>or</sup> <sup>small</sup> <sup>schools</sup> <sup>instructed</sup>. The scholars <sup>are</sup> <sup>pass</sup> <sup>at</sup> <sup>announcements</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>are</sup> <sup>keenly</sup> <sup>interested</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>school</sup> <sup>life</sup>;  
 few teachers <sup>are</sup> <sup>necessary</sup> <sup>for</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>children</sup> <sup>read</sup> <sup>about</sup> <sup>as</sup> <sup>parents</sup> <sup>for</sup> <sup>this</sup> <sup>course</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>study</sup> <sup>interesting</sup> <sup>&</sup> <sup>stimulating</sup>.

As the practice of the Parents Union School rests on a considerable body of theory which I may not depend on <sup>submitting</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>you</sup> <sup>readers</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>General</sup> <sup>Secret</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>Union</sup> <sup>for</sup> <sup>information</sup> <sup>as</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>general</sup> <sup>practice</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>school</sup> <sup>is</sup> <sup>likely</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>be</sup> <sup>as</sup> <sup>far</sup> <sup>as</sup> <sup>dealt</sup> <sup>with</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>conclusion</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>Board</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>Education</sup> <sup>protects</sup> <sup>against</sup> <sup>any</sup> <sup>but</sup> <sup>a</sup> <sup>final</sup> <sup>arrangement</sup> <sup>on</sup> <sup>leaving</sup> <sup>school</sup> <sup>whether</sup> <sup>at</sup> <sup>sixteen</sup> <sup>or</sup> <sup>eighteen</sup> <sup>years</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>school</sup> <sup>will</sup> <sup>be</sup> <sup>considered</sup> <sup>an</sup> <sup>arrangement</sup> <sup>which</sup> <sup>has</sup> <sup>been</sup> <sup>very</sup> <sup>successful</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>past</sup> <sup>quarters</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>a</sup> <sup>century</sup> <sup>or</sup> <sup>so</sup>.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
 (through the Parents' Union)